IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1 (Previously Presented). An audio/video generation apparatus, comprising:

an audio/video generation device configured to generate at least one of audio and video material, and

a metadata generation processor configured to receive at least one of the generated audio and video material, and to generate metadata describing at least one of the content and attributes of the generated audio and video material,

the metadata generation processor including a hashing processor configured to generate a quasi-unique reference from at least one of the audio and video material, the quasi-unique reference being a hash value, the hash value providing a quasi-unique reference to at least one of the audio and video material with a reduced amount of data than the audio/video material itself, the hash value being generated from data values representing the at least one of audio and video material in accordance with a predetermined relationship, and the metadata generation processor configured to include the hash value as part of the metadata, said hash value and metadata being stored on a computer readable storage medium,

the metadata is represented as a data structure stored on the computer readable storage medium, said data structure describing the content of at least one shot or sub-shot of at least one of the audio and video material, the data structure comprising

a volume identification defining the computer readable storage medium on which at least one of the audio and video material is represented,

at least one shot identification defining the at least one shot or sub-shot within at least one of the audio and video material, and

the quasi-unique reference value generated from at least one the audio and video data within the shot or sub-shot.

2 (Canceled).

3 (Previously Presented). The audio/video generation apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a communications processor configured to communicate the metadata separately from at least one of said audio and video material.

4 (Currently Amended). The audio/video generation apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a second ~~data carrier~~ computer readable storage medium, the audio/video generation device being configured to store at least one of the audio and video material on the second computer readable storage medium.

5 (Currently Amended). The audio/video generation apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the ~~data carrier~~ computer readable storage medium, the metadata generation processor being configured to store the metadata on the computer readable storage medium.

6 (Previously Presented). The audio/video generation apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the predetermined relationship provides the data values of parts of at least one of the audio and video material from which the quasi-unique reference is generated.

7 (Previously Presented). The audio/video generation apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein the predetermined relationship identifies pixels within a frame or a plurality of frames of the video material, the values of which pixels are used to generate the quasi-unique

reference value.

8 (Canceled).

9 (Original). A camera including an audio/video generation apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the metadata generation processor forms at least part of a camera utility device releasably attached to the camera.

10 (Currently Amended). A metadata generation processor configured to generate metadata describing at least one of the content or attributes of audio/video material, the metadata generation processor comprising

a hash processor configured to receive at least one of audio and video material generated by an audio/video generation device, to generate a hash value from the audio/video material with a reduced amount of data than the audio/video material and to store the hash value in a computer readable storage medium, the reference value being generated from data values representing the audio/video material, the hash value being generated from data values representing at least one of video material, the data values being selected from parts of at least one of the audio and video material,

the metadata is represented as a data structure stored in the computer readable storage medium, said data structure describing the content of at least one shot or sub-shot of at least one of audio and video material, the data structure comprising

a volume identification defining a data carrier on which at least one of the audio and video material is represented,

at least one shot identification defining the at least one shot or sub-shot within at least one of the audio and video material, and

the ~~quasi-unique reference~~ hash value generated from at least one the audio and video data within the shot or sub-shot.

11 (Currently Amended). A metadata generation processor as claimed in claim 10, comprising the ~~data store~~ computer readable storage medium configured to store the metadata, the hash value being stored in the ~~data store~~ computer readable storage medium in association with the metadata describing at least one of the audio and video material from which the ~~quasi-unique reference~~ hash value was generated.

12 (Canceled).

13 (Original). A camera utility device including a metadata generation processor as claimed in claim 10.

14-22 (Canceled).

23 (Previously Presented). A metadata association processor configured to generate a hash value from at least one of audio and video material, the hash value being generated in accordance with a predetermined relationship of data values from predetermined parts of at least one of the audio and video material, the predetermined relationship being the same as a predetermined relationship which was used by a metadata generation processor to generate an original hash value from corresponding parts of at least one of the audio and video material, the metadata generation processor having generated metadata describing at least one of the content or attributes of at least one of the audio and video material, the metadata association processor is configured

to search the metadata for a match between the original hash value and the generated hash value,

to associate the metadata stored in association with the original hash value with at least one of the audio and video material from which material the generated hash value was produced based on results of the search, and

to cause information pertaining to the association between the at least one of the audio and video material from the generated hash value was produced and the metadata to be stored in a computer readable storage medium.

24 (Previously Presented). An ingestion processor comprising

an audio/video material reproduction device configured to receive a data carrier bearing at least one of audio and video material and to reproduce at least one of the audio and video material from the data carrier, and

a metadata ingestion processor configured to receive metadata describing the content of at least one of the audio and video material, the metadata including an original hash value generated from at least one of the audio and video material in accordance with a predetermined relationship with the at least one audio and video material, and

a metadata association processor including a hashing processor configured to generate a hash value from at least one of the audio and video material, the hash value being generated in accordance with the predetermined relationship of data values from the predetermined parts of the at least one of the audio and video material in accordance with the parts of at least one of the audio and video material which were used to generate the original hash value, the metadata association processor is configured

to search the metadata for a match between the original hash value and the generated hash value,

to associate the metadata stored in association with the original hash value with at least one of the audio and video material from which the generated hash value was produced based on results of the search, and

to cause information pertaining to the association between the at least one of the audio and video material from the generated hash value was produced and the metadata to be stored.

25 (Canceled).

26 (Previously Presented). The ingestion processor as claimed in claim 24, wherein the metadata association processor is configured to identify a scene change within the content of at least one of the audio and video material from the relative value of the hash values generated for each frame of the at least one of the audio and video material.

27 (Currently Amended). A method of producing at least one of audio and video material with metadata describing at least one of the content and attributes of at least one of the audio and video material, the method comprising

generating at least one of the audio and video material,

generating metadata describing at least one of the audio and video material, including generating a hash value providing a quasi-unique reference to at least one of the audio and video material with a reduced amount of data than at least one of the audio and video material, the hash value being generated from data values representing predetermined parts of at least one of the audio and video material in accordance with a predetermined relationship,

storing, in a computer readable storage medium, the hash value as part of the metadata describing at least one of the audio and video material from which audio and video material the hash value was generated, and

storing the metadata as a data structure, in the computer readable storage medium, said data structure describing the content of at least one shot or sub-shot of at least one of audio and video material, the step of storing the metadata as a data structure comprising

storing a volume identification defining a data carrier on which at least one of the audio and video material is represented,

storing at least one shot identification defining the at least one shot or sub-shot within at least one of the audio and video material, and

storing the hash value generated from at least one the audio and video data within the shot or sub-shot.

28 (Canceled).

29 (Original). A method as claimed in claim 27, comprising

communicating the metadata separately from the audio/video material.

30 (Original). A method as claimed in claim 27, comprising storing the audio/video material on a first data carrier and storing the metadata on a second data carrier.

31 (Currently Amended). A method of associating at least one of audio and video material with metadata describing at least one of the content and attributes of at least one of the audio and video material, the method comprising:

generating a hash value from at least one of the audio and video material, the hash value being generated in accordance with a predetermined relationship of data values from predetermined parts of at least one of the audio and video material, the predetermined relationship being the same as a predetermined relationship used to generate an original hash value from corresponding parts of at least one of the audio and video, the original hash value being generated with the metadata describing at least one of the content and attributes of at least one of the audio and video material,

searching the metadata for a match between the original hash value and the generated hash value,

associating the metadata stored in association with the original hash value with the at least one of the audio and video material from which the generated hash value was produced based on the results of the searching step, and

storing, in a computer readable storage medium, information pertaining to the association between the at least one of the audio and video material from the generated hash value was produced and the metadata.

32 (Original). A computer readable storage medium storing instructions which when executed by a computer causes the computer to operate as an audio/video generation apparatus, a camera, a camera utility device or an ingestion processor according to claim 1.

33 (Original). A computer readable storage medium storing instructions which when executed by a computer causes the computer to perform the method according to claim 27.

34 (Original). A computer program product having a computer readable medium recorded thereon information signals representative of the computer program claimed in

claim 32.

35 (Original). A computer program product having a computer readable medium recorded thereon information signals representative of the computer program claimed in claim 33.